

New law provides that misdemeanor offenses of the crimes of battery of a police officer (R.S. 14:34.2), theft (R.S. 14:67), theft of goods (R.S. 14:67.10), illegal possession of stolen things (R.S. 14:69), issuing worthless checks (R.S. 14:71), prostitution (R.S. 14:82), and harassing telephone communications (R.S. 14:285) may be the subject of a municipal ordinance.

Existing law provides for the crime of abuse and neglect of adults (R.S. 14:403.2) and defines "abuse" as the infliction of physical or mental injury, including sexual abuse, exploitation, or extortion of something of value, so that the victim's health, self-determination, or emotional well-being is endangered.

New law retains this definition of existing law and further includes acts of abandonment or isolation in the definition of "abuse".

New law defines "abandonment" as desertion or willful forsaking of the victim by a person having care or custody of the victim and under circumstances where a reasonable person would continue to provide care and custody.

New law defines "isolation" as intentional acts: (1) preventing the victim from contacting family, friends, or concerned persons (these shall not be construed to affect a legal restraining order); (2) preventing the victim from receiving mail or telephone calls; (3) physically or chemically restraining the victim to prevent contact with visitors, family, friends, or other concerned persons; and (4) restricting, placing, or confining the victim into a restricted area to socially deprive or prevent contact with family, friends, visitors, or other concerned persons. Excludes medical isolation prescribed by a licensed physician from definition.

Existing law allows adult protection agencies to seek a court order to enter a home and investigate when entrance into the home is refused.

New law retains this provision of existing law and further allows such a court order when access to the adult for investigation purposes or to interview him

closed and the record of the proceeding may be sealed.

Effective August 15, 1999.

(Amends R.S. 14:403.2(B)(1), (E)(3) and (8), and (H); Adds R.S. 14:34.2(C), 67(D), 67.10(C), 69(D), 71(H), 82(F), 285(E), and 403.2(B)(12) and (13)